

colour, the posterior femora but slightly clavate and serrated beneath. The wings are quite limpid, with the veins very slightly tinged with brown. The veins are arranged as is described in the last species. The abdomen is terminated by a retractile appendage, armed with a radiating series of pale-coloured setæ.

XXV. *Descriptions of some new Exotic Species of Acroceridæ (Vesiculosa, Latr.), a Family of Dipterous Insects.*
By J. O. WESTWOOD, ESQ. F.L.S.

[Read January 3, 1848.]

THE family, whereof I propose in the present paper to describe a number of new species, is remarkable for the singularly swollen body, and more particularly abdomen, of nearly all the species, whence Latreille gave to the group the sectional name of *Vesiculosa*. This peculiarity does not exist alone in this family of insects, since we meet with various analogous resemblances in other orders of insects, and indeed in other tribes of animals. Among the *Coleoptera* there is the genus *Chactas* amongst the *Melyridæ*, and some Heteromerous genera, remarkable for their very swollen elytra. Amongst the *Homoptera* there is also a very remarkable genus of *Cicadidæ* from New Holland, figured by me, in the "Arcana Entomologica," under the name of *Cystosoma Saundersii*. There are also some Orthopterous genera, and many Homopterous, in which the scutellum is dilated and swollen, concealing the wings and abdomen; as well as some *Crustacea*, such as the crab-genus *Hymenosoma*, and some fishes, which are similarly swollen.

The naturalist will do well not to overlook these kinds of analogies, and they require to be stored up for future use. To attempt in the present state of science to apply them fully and fitly is a vain effort of skill.

Of the singular family *Acroceridæ* I believe nothing is still known of their habits; the species are everywhere very scarce, and no observation has hitherto been made of their transformations. The genera are but few in number, but the species are distributed over the greater portion of the globe. I do not however remember any Asiatic species, although African, Australian,

North and South American, as well as European, are known. The species are but of small size, none exceeding our large blue-bottle fly in size.

PSILODERA.

Psilodera affinis, Westw.

Ps. lutea, thoracis plaga lata dorsali antice subito angustata ænea, abdomine supra saturate fusco-testaceo, villosa, segmentis tribus basalibus macula media nigra, ad basin haud dilatata.

Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. 11.

Habitat apud Caput Bonæ Spei.

In Mus. nostr.

Ps. validæ affine. Caput nigrum. Antennæ flavæ, articuli 2di apice nigro. Thorax luteo-fulvus, pube erecta fulva hirtus, plaga media dorsali antice subito angustiore ænea supra scutellum, maculis duabus obscure testaceis ad marginem posticum thoracis dorsi extensis, notatus. Abdomen supra fusco-testaceum, pube pallidiori hirtum, segmentis tribus basalibus macula nigra basali, 1ma basi haud dilatata; infra obscure flavescens. Pedes omnino flavi. Alæ hyalinæ. Proboscis nigra, seta dorsali et basali albida.

Psilodera capensis, G. R. Gray, An. K. Ins. pl. 128, f. 4.

Ps. thorace et scutello omnino luteo-pubescentibus, capite nigro, proboscide nigra, supra fulva, pedibus pallidis; abdomine rufo-fusco, luteo-albido fasciata.

Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{3}$, expans. alar. lin. 8.

Habitat apud Caput Bonæ Spei.

In Mus. Britann.

An *Cyrtus fasciatus*, Wied.? E *Ps. valida* certe distinctæ.

LASIA.

Lasia flavitarsis, Erichson.

Syn. *Panops flavitarsis*, Wiedemann, Macquart.

Lasia amethystina, Perty.

Beris? violacca, G. R. Gray. In Griffith's An. K. Ins. pl. 114, fig. 2.

Hæc species magnitudine valde variat. Individuum Pertianum lineas $4\frac{3}{4}$ habet; Wiedemanni 5 lineas, et proboscidem 6 lineas. In Museo D. Hope individua 2 extant, lineas $5\frac{1}{2}$ — $6\frac{1}{4}$ longitudine corporis, proboscidis $9\frac{1}{4}$ lin., et expans. alar. 12— $13\frac{1}{2}$ lin. habentia. Antennæ fusæ, articulo ultimo basi pallido, venæ intermediæ longitudinales marginis postici alarum ad marginem ipsum haud extensæ.

Lasia auricoma, Westw.

Las. cæruleo-viridis nitida, thoracis dorso cupreo, abdominis segmentis apicalibus aureo-pilosis, pedibus nigris, tarsis luteis.

Long. corp. lin. $5\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. 12.

Habitat in Brasilia.

In Mus. nostr. Communic. D. Sells.

Oculi picei, luteo-villosi, ocelli haud prominuli. Thorax aureo-viridis, luteo-villosus, plaga magna fere totum dorsum occupante ænea, posticè cuprea, margine omni læte purpurea. Scutellum et abdomen cæruleo-viridia, parum villosa, postice tamen in medio segmentorum aureo-pilosa. Femora ænea, geniculis piceis. Tibiæ piceæ, luteo-pilosæ. Tarsi lutei. Tegulæ chalybeæ. Alæ fusciscenti-hyalinæ, venis nigris, venæ intermediæ marginis postici ad marginem ipsum extensæ.

Lasia rufipes, Westw.

Las. ænea, thorace abdomineque valde luteo-pilosis, pedibus alarumque venis costalibus testaceis.

Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{3}{4}$. Long. probosc. lin. 6. Expans. alar. lin. 11.

Habitat in Brasilia. D. Miers.

Oculi picei, luteo-subvillosi. Antennæ basi nigræ (apice detрито). Proboscis nigra, basi supra chalybæo, seta dorsali brunnea. Caput postice æneo-viridi, regione ocellorum vix elevato. Thorax subcupreo-æneus, luteo dense pilosus. Abdomen etiam densius luteo-villosum, basi segmentorum posticorum (magis subcupreo) tantum apparente; abdomen subtus nitidissime purpureum. Pedes testacei. Alæ hyalinæ, vix infuscatae; venis basalibus et costalibus testaceis. Tegulæ luteæ.

PHILOPOTA.

Philopota maculicollis, Westw. (Lond. and Edin. Phil. Mag. 1835.)

(*Philopota vidua*, Erichson's Entomog. p. 153.)

In individuo nostro color corporis nigro-piceus, nec brunneus; facies angusta, inter oculos albida, e sericie tenuissima argentea. Proboscis flava, apice brunnea; prothoracis dorsi angulis posticis productis, et extremo apice ferrugineo; mesothorax punctis duobus minutis anticis alterisque duobus cuneatis supra basin alarum ferrugineis. Abdominis piceo-nigri margo lateralis tenuis, infra pallidè flavus. Femora nigra, basi rufa,

apice lutea-brunneo. Tibiæ posticæ extus pallidæ flavæ.

Alæ infumatæ, dimidio postico pallidiori.

Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{2}$ (nec $5\frac{1}{2}$), expans. alar. lin. 12.

Habitat in Brasilia. D. Swainson.

In Mus. nostr.

Philopota conica (*nitida*, Westw.)

Individuum hujus speciei, in Musæo D. Hope, characteribus sequentibus distinguitur: forsân species distincta.

Caput nigrum, facie albo-sericanti, acumine albido. Proboscis fere corporis longitudine albida, apice fusco. Mesothoracis dorsum flavum, disco lato nigro, antice subito angustiore; linea laterale tenue flava super basin alarum relicta. Prothoracis pleuræ flavo-maculatæ. Mesothorax valde elevatus, lateribus ante alas utrinque macula flava. Abdomen elongato-conicum, nitidum punctatum, segmenti 1mi margine postico tenui flavo, segmentis 2 et 3 macula transversali laterali marginis postici cum margine laterali omni flavis. Coxæ brunneæ. Femora nigra, basi brunneo, apice albido. Tibiæ albidæ, subtus nigricantes. Alæ fuscescentes, antice vix obscuriores.

Obs.—Individa duo a cel. Macquartio in “*Diptères Exotiques*,” pars 2, pp. 171, 172, ut varietates *D. conicæ* descripta, meo judice, ad species distinctas pertinent.

Philopota liturata, Westw.

Ph. brunneo-nigra, prothoracis margine antico et postico, mesothorace utrinque linea flexuosa flavis, alis fusco-hyalinis, abdomine subopaco punctatissimo.

Long. corp. lin. $3\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. 7.

Habitat in Brasilia. D. Swainson.

In Mus. D. Hope.

Statura et summa affinitas *Ph. nitidæ*, differt tamen colore magis brunneo, thoracis minus elevato, prothoracis margine antico et postico flavis. Mesothorax utrinque linea tenui flexuosa flava, ad basin scutelli ducta. Prothoracis et mesothoracis pleuris notatis macula flava. Abdomen elongato-conicum (minus tamen elongatum quam in specie præcedenti), subopacum, punctatissimum, punctis tamen minoribus quam in præcedenti, segmentis posticis tenuissime sericeis; tribus basalibus margine postico tenui flavo, (in 2do et 3tio medio interrupto), margine omni laterali flavido.

An *Philopotæ ovatæ* mas?

Philopota tuberculata, Westw.

Ph. nigra luteo-villosa, mesothorace postice bituberculato, abdominis basi utrinque luteo; alis fusco-hyalinis, dimidio antico fusco.

Long. corp. lin. 3, expans. alar. lin. 7.

Habitat in Brasilia. D. Miers.

Species distincta. Caput nigrum, oculis griseo-hirtis, facie albido-sericea, acumine pallido. Proboscis corpore e tertia parte brevior, albida, apice fusco. Thorax niger, luteo-villosus, prothoracis loborum dorsalinum angulis rufo-piceis. Mesothorax valde elevatus; disco postice quadrato-elevato, vel potius in tuberculis duobus producto. Scutellum gibbum, aureo-pilosum. Abdomen conico-ovatum, nitidum, punctatum, longius nigro-hirtum, segmentis 2, 3 et 4 utrinque macula magna triangulari communi lutea, abdomen subtus luteum. Femora piceo-nigra, apice luteo. Tibiæ pallide luteæ, subtus vix obscuriores. Tarsi luteo-fulvi, unguibus nigris. Alæ fusco-hyalinæ, costa late fusca, usque ad venam 2dam posticam (5am longitudinalem) et ad apicem alæ extensa; vena 4ta longitudinalis (ramo interno furcæ), fere ad apicem alæ extensa; vena sexta sinuata ramos duos parvos emittit, versus basin alarum, extensos, uno paullo ante apicem alteroque apicali.

Philopota ovata, Westw.

Ph. brunnea punctatissima, thorace, abdomineque basi lincis flavis notatis, alis fusco-hyalinis, costa late fusca.

Long. corp. lin. $3\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. 8.

Habitat in Brasilia. D. Swainson.

In Mus. D. Hope.

Ph. lituratæ affinis. Brunneo-nigra, opaca. Caput nigrum, punctatissimum, facie albo-sericea, acumine albido. Prothorax margine antico et postico tenui flavo. Mesothorax mediocriter elevatus, utrinque linea tenuissima flexuosa flava ad basin scutelli extensa, pleuris prothoracis puncto et mesothoracis macula majori ante alas flavis. Abdomen conico-ovatum, opacum, tenuissime punctatissimum, margine postico tenui segmenti 1mi flavo, segmento 3tio et sequentibus basi nigricantibus; margine omni laterali tenui albido. Femora nigra, apice albido. Tibiæ albidæ, subtus piceæ. Tarsi picei. Alæ fusco-hyalinæ, costa latè fusca ad venam 2dam posticam extensa, apice ipso hyalino.

Philopota histrio, Erichson.

Individuum hujus species vidi, cujus color generalis corporis est æneo-niger nec brunneus; prothoracis flavi lateribus vitta tenui nigra ad basin alarum extensa et cum margine tenui antico nigro mesothoracis litteram M formante. Coxæ anticæ flavæ. Aliter cum descriptione cel. Erichsonii congruit.

Long. corp. fere lin. 4.

Habitat in Brasilia. D. Miers.

Individuum alterum etiam vidi, cujus prothoracis dorsum est nigrum, margine postico tenui litteram V. referente, angulisque anticis lateralibus flavis maculis posticis mesothoracis margineque postico scutelli luteo-ferrugineis; abdominis segmentis basalibus margine postico flavo in medio interrupto; duobus apicalibus nigris; femora antica subtus albida. Magnitudo præcedentis. Brasilia. D. Miers.

PTERODONTIA.

Pterodontia flavipes, G. R. Gray, in Griffith, An. Kingd. Insects, pl. 128, fig. 3, part 34, p. 779.

[Nec *Pt. flavipes*, Macquart, Dipt. exot. 1, 175.]

Pt. nigra, scutello abdomineque testaceo, basi maculisque dorsalibus nigris, pedibus pallidis, femoribus quatuor posticis nigris.

Long. corp. lin. 4, expans. alar. lin. 8 $\frac{2}{3}$.

Habitat in Georgia Americæ.

In Mus. Britann.

Affinis *Pt. Virmondii*, Erich. Caput et thorax nigra, nitida, nigro-villosa. Mesothorax lateribus postice scutelloque testaceis. Abdomen segmentis duobus basalibus (1mo brevissimo) nigris; reliquis fulvo-testaceis, rufo-villosis; 3tio vitta media antice et postice dilatata; 4to et 5to macula media basali, nigris. Tegulæ fusco-nigræ, nitidæ. Pedes pallidi, luteo-albidi, tarsorum apice et unguibus obscuris, femoribus quatuor posticis nigris. Alæ pallide luteo-hyalinæ. Costa nonnihil obscuriori, venis pallidis, costalibus et basalibus, paullo obscurioribus. Alarum venæ ut in *Pt. Mellii* dispositæ.

Obs.—M. Macquart states that the figure given of the wing of *Pterodontia*, in the Suites à Buffon, Dipt. pl. 20, fig. 5, is copied from the Animal Kingdom; it is however very inaccurate: neither

is the engraving in the English work quite correct nor agreeable to my original drawing, from which it was engraved.

Pterodontia Macquartii, Westw.

Pt. atra, scutello abdominisque lateribus rufis, pedibus flavis, femoribus anticis nigris.

Long. corp. $3\frac{1}{2}$ — $4\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Habitat in Nova Hollandia.

In Mus. Reg. Paris.

Syn. *Pterodontia flavipes*, Macquart, Dipt. exot. 1, p. 175.

An var. *Pt. Mellii*, Erichs.?

Pterodontia analis, Westw.

Pt. nigra, segmentis apicalibus abdominis fulvis, alulis margine nigricantibus, alis hyalinis, venis albidis, pedibus pallidis.

Long. corp. lin. 2, expans. alar. lin. 5.

Habitat in Georgia Americæ.

In Mus. Britann.

Nigra, nitida, nigro-villosa, tenuissime punctata. Caput nigrum, oculis postice brunneis. Antennæ prope os insertæ, articulo terminali gracillimo brevi, apice clavato setigero. Thorax cum scutello niger. Abdomen hæmisphericum, segmentis duobus basalibus maculaque media ad basin segmenti sequentis nigris. Tota pars abdominis relicta apicalis fulva. Alæ hyalinæ, iridescentes, transversim rugosæ. Venæ albidæ distinctæ, area discoidali sub apicem alarum postice aperta. Tegulæ fuscæ, marginibus nigricantibus. Pedes albi, femoribus basi obscurioribus, unguibus nigris.

ACROCERA.

Acrocera nigrina, Westw.

Acr. nigra, nitida, tenuissime punctata; punctis duobus minutis ad marginem posticum penultimi segmenti margineque tenui segmenti ultimi albidis; pedibus obscure luteo-albidis, femoribus tibiisque in medio obscurioribus; alis fusco pallide tinctis, venis piceis distinctis; alulis fusco-marginatis.

Long. corp. lin. 2, expans. alar. lin. $6\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat in Georgia Americæ.

In Mus. Britann.

Acrocera unguiculata, Westw.

Acr. nigra, abdomine fulvo, basi maculisque nigris, pedibus albis, unguibus nigris; alarum venis fere obsoletis.

Long. corp. lin. $1\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. 4.

Habitat in Georgia Americæ.

In Mus. Britann.

Caput et thorax nigra, hoc antice utrinque puncto minuto luteo, postice aureo-villoso, mesothoracis lateribus luteis. Abdomen fulvum; basi, lateribus segmentorum duorum basalium, macula angulata in medio ad basin alteraque ad basin segmentorum duorum proximorum nigris; corpore subtus halteribus pedibusque albidis, unguibus magnis nigris. Alæ hyalinæ albæ, venis fere indistinctis, costa tamen paullo obscuriori.

Acrocera subfasciata, Westw.

Acr. nigra, thorace utrinque maculis duabus cuneiformibus fulvis; abdomine fusco, segmento 1mo ad apicem maculis duabus transversis, 2do fascia apicali utrinque abbreviata luteis; alteris terminalibus luteo-marginatis.

Long. corp. lin. $1\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. $4\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat in Novo Eboraco.

In Mus. Britann.

Caput et thorax nigra, hoc antice maculis duabus cuneiformibus fulvis, spiraculis albidis, mesothoracis lateribus postice albidis. Pedes albidis, unguibus nigris. Alæ hyalinæ, venis pallide fuscis; costa paullo obscuriori.

Acrocera fumipennis, Westw.

Acr. nigra, nitida, alis hyalinis, versus basin fusco-infumatis, venis versus basin obscuris ad apicem tamen fere oblitteratis, alulis fuscis, pedibus albidis.

Long. corp. lin. $1\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. 4.

Habitat in Georgia Americæ.

In Mus. Britann.

Acrocera bulla, Westw.

Nigra, abdomine albido, basi, (in medio dentata,) fascia ad basin 2di segmenti, maculaque media ad basin 3tii anoque nigris, pedibus albidis, unguibus nigris, alis hyalinis, costa venisque fuscis.

Long. corp. lin. $2\frac{1}{2}$, expans. alar. lin. $5\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat in Novo Eboraco.

In Mus. Britann.